

DECLASSIFIED
AUTHORITY NND 735017
DATE 10/10/01 BY SP-6 HAWA, DAA

6/14-0.3.0
1st of Decisions
15th #.0.
22-26 Jan 42

After a day and a half of fighting, the 68th Armored Infantry Battalion and a detachment of tanks from the 25th Tank Battalion have re-established the main line of resistance along the Moser river north of Dauendorf and Schweighausen, and friendly patrols were probing the woods north of the stream. A previous German penetration south of the river had been driven back, and, its mission accomplished, the 68th and the 25th tanks were relieved by friendly infantry and were en route to an assembly area after suffering only light casualties.

At 0140 January 25, the enemy was encountered in the woods north of Ohlungen, but first messages did not mention the enemy strength. An hour and a half later, Col. Lucas, who was maintaining liaison with the 222nd Infantry, reported that the German attack was continuing. By 0415, the enemy was into the woods and the 222nd's regimental reserve was being committed. One battalion of the ^{79th INFANTRY} Division's reserve was being committed at the same time.

Fifteen minutes later, the report came back that tank motors were being heard in the woods and at 0455, the 14th's CC"B" was alerted for a move at any time.

By 0630, the woods north of Ohlungen were almost entirely in enemy hands ~~at~~^{and} at 0740 CC"B" was attached to the 79th Division. The 68th AIB was moving to attack position along the creek south of Schweighausen at 0915, while the tanks from the 25th Tank Battalion detachment were moving to attack positions between Wintershouse and Batzendorf. CC"B" had moved its advance CP to Batzendorf. By 1150, the 68th was ready for the jump-off scheduled for 1230 and the tank detachment was still moving into attack position.

Promptly at 1230, the 68th attacked. They met little opposition at first, and soon encircled the woods north of Ohlungen. First reports said some 500 enemy were in the wooded area. CC"B" was given the mission of seizing the ground west of Ohlungen and sending patrols north of the Moder at 1415.

By 1522, the 68th AIB had moved its CP to Ohlungen, while the infantrymen and tanks continued to fight forward. In approximately three hours, the 68th reported it had killed some 150 Germans and taken 50 prisoners.

At 1920, the enemy held all of Schweighausen except for two or three houses at the eastern, southern and western tips of the town. The 68th attacked north through a clearing in the woods west of the town, capturing about 40 members of the 7th Parachute Division and killing some 50 other Germans in the same vicinity.

A platoon from B Company of the 25th and a squad from B Company of the 68th went through the woods just west of

Schweighausen and contacted the Commanding Officer of the 222nd Infantry, which was holding the western tip of the town. The position of leading elements of the 68th and 25th at this time was reported 1,000 meters northwest of Schweighausen.

The mission of the 68th at this point in the attack was to advance westward along the Schweighausen-Neuberg road to a point half-way between the two towns and establish a defensive position on that line.

Co A of the 222nd Infantry was to attack northward on the road through the middle of the woods northwest of Schweighausen. The Third Battalion of the 314th Infantry was attacking northeastward from the west side of the woods where they engaged in a close fire fight. The Germans had built a bridge across the ~~Moder~~ directly north of Ohlungen and much of the fighting centered around this point. The plan of the Third Battalion of the 314th was to advance to the east and join the 68th at the mid-point of the road between Neubourg and Schweighausen.

The advance CP of the 68th then moved to Ohlungen and the detachment from the 25th Tank Battalion remained in attack position. Casualties for the day had been light and the 68th established its position for the night, reporting that it had killed approximately 150 Germans and taken about 50 prisoners.

At 0700 on the 26th, the 68th was continuing their attack and by 0930 had completed its mission by re-establishing the main line of resistance along the ~~Moder~~ river, while its patrols were probing the area on the enemy-held side of the stream.

The 68th and the detachment of the 25th were relieved

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in position by friendly infantry by 1130, and were en route to an assembly area. Casualties for the entire mission were reported light.

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copy
of the report of activities
of the group in the area